

THE CHARLEROI MAIL

VOL. XVIII. NO. 156.

CHARLEROI, WASHINGTON CO. MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1917

ONE CENT

BOATMEN FIND NAVIGATION ON MONONGAHELA VERY DIFFICULT

Low Water and Ice Make a Combination Hard to Overcome

ONLY SMALL TOWS ARE TAKEN

Not in many years has steamboating on the Monongahela been as difficult as it is at the present time, and steamboat men are having all kinds of trouble in delivering even the lightest of tows to their destinations.

The river is exceptionally low for this time of year, and as the stream is full of ice, which is lying in the pools, there not being sufficient current to carry it away, it makes a condition which is hard to cope with.

Fortunately, stocks of coal are quite heavy at many of the mill yards, else the fuel condition would be more acute than it is. Steamboat men, however, are making good records during the present cold spell, and are getting coal through to destinations only after the most patient and difficult labor. The delivery of empty craft to mines in the upper pools is one of the worst problems facing coal shippers at the present time. The steamers Crucible and Arha, of the Crucible Fuel company, with their combined efforts were able to take only a single tow up the river Sunday evening in an endeavor to land empties at the mines in the Sixth pool at a short distance above Rice Landing.

Navigation has been suspended in the sixth pool for several days, and unless these boats reach that point no coal will be mined on the river in that section until the ice runs out. The Braddock and Juniata of the American Steel and Wire line, were both ice bound near Belle Vernon on Saturday with empties going up. This morning, however, they were able to supply the mines near Fayette City with a few empties which will be loaded and taken to the Donora mills at once.

The boats of the Vestra line have so far been able to keep their mines in the fifth pool running. The steamer Vestra passed through Lock No. 4 with a single tow from Vestra mine Sunday evening. Boats clearing Lock No. 4 during the past 24 hours were the Arha, Crucible, Vestra, Allipps, Sailor, B. F. Jones and Braddock, none of them going farther south than the fifth pool.

Many of the boats are out of commission for hours at a time, having to lay over to repair their wheels, as many of the buckets are broken, as the boats back down through the ice with loaded tows. The boats are compelled to navigate in this manner at this time, in order to break the ice, as it would be impossible to push "head-on" through the floes which now cover the river.

If you need a good watch \$1.00 a week will do. I. Birken, 524 McKean avenue, Charleroi. 136-tf.*

SOLDIER BOYS TO HAVE A HOLIDAY VACATION

The soldier boys at Camp Hancock are to have a holiday vacation next week, Gen. Muir, the new commander, having authorized that next Sunday, Monday and Tuesday be given to the men for relaxation. Mess Sergeants of the various companies are serving special menus for the boys and it looks as if Christmas at Camp Hancock will be a most enjoyable day.

QUESTIONS ARE BEING MAILED

First Five Per Cent Went Out on Saturday, to Local Registrants

SEVEN DAYS TO ANSWER

On Saturday last the exemption board of the Fifth District sent out 256 questionnaires to registered men in this section of the county. The same number will follow today, and for the next eighteen days until all the registered men have the list of questions in their hands. Approximately 15,000 of these questionnaires will be mailed out in this county within the twenty days specified by law. The papers contain 16 pages and are difficult for the average man to fill in. Because of this legal advisory boards have been appointed for each draft district to aid the registrants in filling out their papers. In addition to these advisory boards a large number of attorneys in the county have volunteered their services, so that registrants should have no trouble in getting legal assistance in making the proper answers.

A franked envelope—requiring no postage—is enclosed in which registrants return the filled out questionnaires. The mailing of the list of questions to the registrants constitutes sufficient notification, in the eyes of the government and failure to receive one of them will not be accepted as an excuse for not filing answers to the questions in the time prescribed. Those who do not do so will be treated technically as deserters and when found will be placed in the first class, subject to immediate call to the colors irrespective of their dependencies.

When the questionnaires are returned the local boards must then place the men in one of the five classes of liability for service within four days or the first five per cent by Thursday or next week.

Red Cross Drive for Money and Members Is On

Charleroi Chapter of the American Red Cross will have a double enough this week one for members and the other for finances.

The financial campaign will be in charge of a committee composed of Mrs. J. D. Berryman, Walter C. J. Booth, R. C. Mounter, W. S. James, S. L. Woodward, W. R. Gaur, Mrs. J. T. S. Cohen, Mrs. Collier and Jas. Hoffman and of which Walter Byerly is chairman. This committee will secure pledges from our citizens to donate a certain and specific sum each month with which to buy supplies for the Charleroi Red Cross Chapter. This feature is absolutely essential, if the local Chapter is to continue the good work so successfully launched. It is hoped to secure enough pledges to make the Charleroi Chapter independent of any assistance from the National Chapter. The finance committee is taking pledges of \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5 and \$10 per month and hope to meet with great success.

The campaign for members is under direction of H. J. Booth, and active efforts will begin Tuesday morning. The district chairman will have direct charge of the work and will make a house to house canvass. All members of the Red Cross will be given a service flag, while all new members will be given a smaller one. The membership campaign will close Christmas eve, December 24, at which time all members are requested to display their flags in the windows, with a light behind it. It is hoped to place a member of the Red Cross in every home in Charleroi during the week.

This evening at 6 o'clock Mr. Booth, the general chairman, will entertain at the Hotel Monier, at which time the general plan of campaign will be outlined. These district chairmen, together with their districts are as follows:

- First—First to Third, McKean to Washington, Mrs. William Rhodes.
- Second—Third to Fifth, McKean to Washington, Mrs. Wm. High.
- Third—Fifth to Seventh, McKean to Washington, Mrs. A. W. Day.
- Fourth—Seventh to Eleventh, McKean to Washington, Mrs. Patrick.
- Fifth—Washington to Crest, First to Third, Mrs. G. W. Wright.
- Sixth—Washington to Crest, Third to Fifth, Mrs. Herman Heupel.
- Seventh—Washington to Crest, Fifth to Seventh, Mrs. C. J. Mogan.
- Eighth—Washington to Crest, Seventh to Eleventh, Mrs. John Riley.
- Ninth—Crest to Woodland, First to Third, Mrs. Walter Byerly.
- Tenth—Crest to Woodland, Fourth to Seventh, Mrs. Chas. C. VanVoorhis.
- Eleventh—Crest to Woodland, Seventh to Eleventh, Mrs. G. W. Moody.

Twelfth—Lock No. 4—Mrs. Tim P. Sloan.

Thirteenth—Speers, Mrs. Margaret Dunkerly.

At the election for an executive committee, held on Saturday last, the following members were elected to serve for the ensuing year: H. J. Booth, K. W. Daly, Walter C. J. Booth, C. J. Mogan, C. R. Perry, Mrs. V. Stewart, Mrs. K. C. Munster, D. M. McCloskey, Mrs. J. T. S. Cohen, Rev. J. R. Burson, S. D. Hill, Harry W. Scott, W. S. James, W. D. Pollock, Mrs. A. C. Davis, J. J. Hotz, George W. Might, Dr. J. W. Hunter, Lee Showers, Dr. J. W. Manion, Dr. F. C. Schuman, J. M. Deleocum, J. D. Berryman, J. W. Fleming, Mrs. W. B. Pfeighardt, W. H. Milliken, Mrs. W. C. Clark, Miss Julia Neat, W. R. Gaur, Eugene Pau, John D. Schafer, T. H. Warrensford, S. W. Starprank, R. H. Risk, James Heffernan, D. R. Hurrell.

The election of officers will not likely take place until after the beginning of the new year, at which time the report of the work of the past year will be made.

TRAIN SCHEDULE STILL BEING SHATTERED

Railroad passenger train schedules are still somewhat shaky, due to the continued cold weather. This morning the northern train due at 9:09 was marked up one hour and thirty minutes late at the Charleroi station, while the one due at 10:25 was marked up one hour and ten minutes. Early morning trains were near their schedules, but later in the day conditions seemed to grow worse. The railroads anticipate that it will take an amelioration of weather conditions as well as holiday business out of the way before there is much improvement.

We are showing a complete line of Ivory Pyroline toilet ware in complete sets and single pieces. H. Porter, Jeweler & Optician, 502 Fallowfield, Charleroi, Pa. 145-tf

Marble and Granite Display
Two car loads of granite and marble monuments, just unloaded, are now on display at the showroom of the M. T. Crowley Marble and Granite Works, 325 McKean avenue. 135-tf

Mrs. Herman Hotz and niece Mary Hotz of Muncie, Ind., are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. William Brounce.

Follow the crowd to Porter's select that Christmas gift Diamond now and we will reserve it for you. H. Porter Jeweler & Optician, 502 Fallowfield avenue, Charleroi. The store with the big street clock. 145-tf

G. L. Gordon of Pittsburg visited in Charleroi with relatives Sunday.

CONCRETE IS BEING USED TO REPAIR STEEL HULLED STEAMERS

HOUSE WILL VOTE ON PROHIBITION AMENDMENT

The House at Washington is expected to take a vote this afternoon at 5 o'clock on the prohibition amendment. Those in a position to know say the amendment will pass the House by a small majority. Should it do so it will likely be signed by President Wilson, other which he states would have seven years to vote for or against its ratification.

COAL SUPPLY QUITE SHORT

Scarcity of Cars Compels Authorities to Take Barge Coal

NO IMMEDIATE RELIEF IN SIGHT

The fuel administrator of Allegheny county found it necessary to commandeer fifteen barges of coal, containing approximately 200,000 bushels, of 7,000 tons of black diamonds, for use of domestic consumers in Pittsburg and vicinity on Saturday last.

The coal belonged to the Diamond Coal & Coke company, and was being held in the Pittsburg harbor awaiting shipment to Louisville on the first barge stage on the Ohio river. As there was no immediate prospect of a shipping stage and as the coal company could obtain as good a price in Pittsburg for the coal as in the southern market, the loaded barges were turned over to the fuel administrator, who will have the contents distributed among the various dealers of that city to be sold to the domestic trade.

The shortage of coal in this district has never been so acute as it is at the present time, due to the claim on the shortage of cars. The Charleroi mine of the Y. & O. company has run but little coal during the past few weeks, most of the output having been diverted to the river, but even the supply of barges has not been normal, and as a consequence the mining has experienced many enforced idle days of late.

Many of the wagon mines have also had their trouble in getting a sufficient car supply and consequently their output has been limited. The coal snap of the past ten days has also worked havoc in the fuel supply, not only retarding the delivery of cars, but likewise the production in many places. It is hoped that an alleviation of weather conditions may help the situation some.

Don't worry about money for buying Xmas presents. Your credit is good. I. Birken, 524 McKean avenue, Charleroi. 136-tf.*

Innovation Believed Will Solve Difficult Problem for Steamboat Men

TO PREVENT LEAKAGE OF HULLS

While there may be "nothing new under the sun," rivermen on the Monongahela are experimenting with an innovation in the way of reinforcing steel hulls which may become very popular, if it proves to be the success it is anticipated it will be.

Recently a number of steamboats of steel construction, particularly of the Vestra line, have had difficulty in keeping their hulls clear of water, due to the fact that many of the bolts in the plates were working loose, through which the seepage at times became rather dangerous. This condition became rather trying during the present spell, when heavy ice on the river made navigation not only difficult, but somewhat dangerous. To overcome the leakage, it was decided to reinforce them with concrete and last week several of these boats were laid up while the hulls were strengthened in the most exposed parts with this new boat building material. The concrete was placed between the ribs on either side of the boats, where it soon hardened, and apparently it has accomplished the work for which it was intended. The boats thus reinforced are now in commission, and so far the results have been equal to the expectations of the owners. No leakage, of any consequence is visible, and if the reinforcement holds out during this period of navigation, it is likely that concreting will become quite common on steel boats when it is necessary to make repairs of this character.

Of course the additional weight of concrete will increase the draft of the steamers, but it is not expected to handicap the boats in any way, as a few inches additional of this character will not lessen their efficiency as towing steamers.

Let Us Solve Your Problem.

Don't throw money away on foolish presents. Buy your wife, sister or children a typewriter. Let us talk it over with you. A typewriter for every purse. Remington Typewriter Co., 587 First National Bank Bldg., Uniontown, Pa. Bell phone 575. Tri State 459 or Monongahela, Pa. Bell phone 309-R. 154-tf.*

Progressive Euchre

Don't fail to attend Monday evening Dec. 17 in St. Jerome's Lyceum, at 8 o'clock, 50 cents. Valuable favors. Benefit E. C. war camp fund. 155-tf.*

We are showing a complete line of Ivory Pyroline toilet ware in complete sets and single pieces. H. Porter, Jeweler and Optician, 502 Fallowfield Charleroi, Pa. 145-tf.*

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Virginia Pearson, in
"All For a Husband" Also a Comedy

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\$1.00 buys a \$5.00 bond. These bonds can be purchased in payments of 25c each. Further information cheerfully furnished.
4 per cent interest paid on savings accounts

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CHARLEROI, PA.



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Tom Kean\$1.15	Marsh Big Havana1.39
Jas. Ruskin1.15	Cash Stogies1.10
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Yoke of Nassau1.25	Jas. Ruskin2.25
Lady Churchill1.38	Lady Churchill2.75
Bar-factor Inv1.63	El Verso Perf. Ext5.00
Gerald Brokers2.50	Havana Americans Inv5.50
Reflexion Pe facto2.75	Sensitiva Perfecto3.00
Picco Bismarck3.99	Ricco Corona3.50
	Ricco Pacific3.50

CIGARETTES	SMOKING TOBACCOS
200 Lucky Strikes\$1.00	1-2 lb Prince Albert50c
200 Camels1.10	1 lb Prince Albert95c
200 Fatima1.60	1-2 lb Tuxedo45c
100 Mogul1.50	1 lb Tuxedo50c
100 Murad1.50	1-2 lb Patterson Seal30c
100 Natural1.50	1-2 lb Belfast30c
100 Philip Morris2.25	1 lb Velvet85c
100 Pall Mall2.25	

Valuable United Cigar Coupon s With All Cigars and Tobacco.

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Children 10c Adults 15c

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in a variety of dainty designs at
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In event of acci-
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mechanism, the
Parker auto-
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John Barleycorn
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Gouverneur Morris
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Kate Douglas Wiggin
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Geo. Barr McCutcheon
Shadow of Flames
Amelie Barr

Michael O'Holloran
By Gene Stratton Porter
Athalie
Robt. W. Chambers
Ranch at the Wolverine
B. M. Bower
Anne of Avonlea
L. M. Montgomery
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Mary Johnson
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Story of Julia Page
Kathleen Norris
Daddy Long Legs
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An acceptable gift for man or woman. We still have a very
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Foot Balls\$2.00 to \$8.00	Jerseys\$2.50 to \$3.50
Boxing Gloves 3.50 to 6.00	Soccer Balls 2.25
Punching Bags 3.00 to 6.00	Skates for Boys 60c
Basket Ball Shirts50c up	Gym Shoes 1.00
Basket Ball Pants50c up	Gym Shirts 50c
Basket Ball Shoes 3.50	Tennis Rackets 1.00 to 6.00
Hand Balls50c	Girls Skates with Shoe attached 5.50

Might's Book Store

509 McKean Avenue

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Toy Line
at
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Prices

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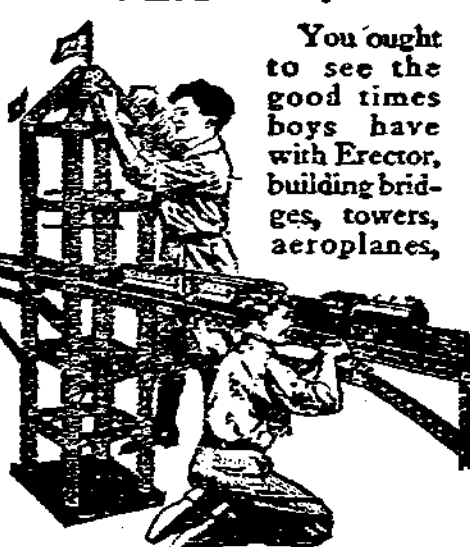
Tom Swift Series.....35c	The Outdoor Girls.....35c
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You ought
to see the
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boys have
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towers,
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mills and hundreds of other big
steel models—many of them run by
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The Toy Like Structural Steel
Give your boy a set of Erector.
It's the only construction toy with
girders exactly like the real
structural steel. Come in and see
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Californians say there is no sea
coast sand binder that surpasses in
effectiveness *Ammophila arenaria*, sea
beach grass. It has done more to hold
the shifting dunes of Golden Gate
park, San Francisco, than any other
agency.

Idolatry on the Decline.

It is becoming a custom among non-
Christian Chinese of Dornoo to go to
the Methodist chapel for their mar-
riage ceremony. Because of the influ-
ence of the mission, idolatry among
them has practically ceased.

Decolorizing Carbons.

English experimenters have at least
partially discovered the secret pro-
cesses used in the manufacture of
German and Dutch decolorizing car-
bons for the sugar industry.

Webster on Opinion.

Inconsistencies of opinion, arising
from changes of circumstances, are
often justifiable.—Daniel Webster.

Questions.

The most simple questions are gen-
erally the most lucid.

Minister a Linguist.

Four languages were used last year
in the preaching of Rev. Paul Burgess,
Presbyterian missionary in the Que-
zaltenango field of Guatemala, accord-
ing to the Guatemala News. He spoke
in Spanish, English, German and Cak-
chiquel.

Strongest Wood.

Lancewood is said to be the strong-
est wood known; its tensile strength
per square inch is 23,000 pounds—that
is to say, that weight is required to
tear asunder a piece of it one inch
square.

A College Education.

A story not new, but worth repeat-
ing, is once again going the rounds in
England. Two bootmakers, whose es-
tablishments faced each other in the
village high street, were very distinct-
ly rivals. One of them had a son at
college and, in the first week of his va-
cation, there appeared in the shop win-
dow the motto: "Mens Conscia Recto."
His rival over the way was for some
time a little nonplussed, but within a
few days he arose to the occasion and
there appeared in his window a card
bearing the legend, "Men's and Wom-
en's Conscia Recti."—Christian Moni-
tor.

West Penn Service

IMPORTANT!

DON'T MOVE INTO A HOUSE

That Isn't Wired for

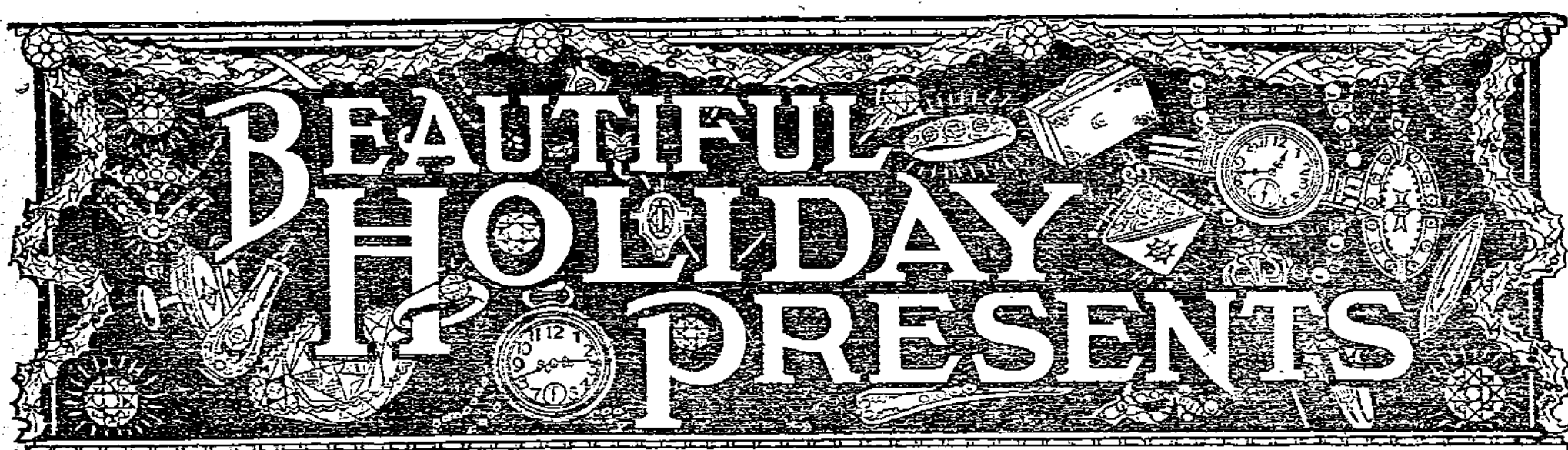
Electricity

Our special Wiring Prop-
osition is so attractive that
every house - owner can
afford to have his houses
made into modern homes
for the comfort of those
who occupy them.

The services of our Illu-
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Gifts of Superb, Rare Beauty for all Time.

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Watches, Watch Bracelet,
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Scarf Pins, etc.

Gentlemen

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Cuff Links, Seals,
Emblems, Rings,
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Charms, etc.

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Hand Painted China,
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